AMENDMENT AND·RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Serial Number: 10/081,226
Filing Date: February 22, 2002
Title: AUTOMATED INFORMATION DISCLOSURE SYSTEM

Page 2
Dkt: 1551.006US1

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) In a patent application manager system maintaining a database of references, a method comprising:

      entering reference data in a database for a first patent application;

      copying the reference data to a database for a second patent application, where the second patent application is related to the first patent application;

      automatically creating a docket entry in a docketing database using the application manager system, wherein the docket entry indicates that references have been entered for the second patent application and [[a]] may need to be cited to a patent office; and

      generating a viewable docket including the docket entry.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprises automatically creating an information disclosure statement including the reference data.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the viewable docket is a hard copy.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the viewable docket is electronic and viewable on a screen.

5.   (Original) A patent management system comprising:

      a docket database to maintain due dates for patent application tasks;

      a reference database to maintain reference data for patent applications; and

      an application manager to copy reference data from a first patent application to a second related application, the application manager automatically generates a docket entry in the docket database for the second application.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 further <u>wherein the application manager</u> ~~comprises~~ automatically ~~creating~~ <u>creates</u> an information disclosure statement including the reference data.

7.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium comprising:

machine readable code to instruct a processor to copy reference data for a first patent application to a database for a second patent application, where the second patent application is related to the first patent application;

machine readable code to instruct a processor to automatically create a docket entry in a docketing database using the application manager system, wherein the docket entry indicates that references have been entered for the second patent application and [[a]] may need to be cited to a patent office.

8.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 7 further comprising machine readable code to instruct a processor to generate a viewable docket including the docket entry.